UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

PROVISIONAL

A/47/PV.2
18 September 1992

ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 15 September 1992, at 4.25 p.m.

President: Mr. GANEV (Bulgaria)

- Election of the officers of the Main Committees
- Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly
- Organization of work of the forty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly: letter from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the Official Records of the General Assembly.

Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, within one week, to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Office of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

92-61152 1109V (E)

The meeting was called to order at 4.25 p.m.

ITEM 5 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEES

The PRESIDENT: I should like to inform members that the following representatives have been elected chairmen of the seven Main Committees of the Assembly and are accordingly members of the General Committee for the forty-seventh session:

First Committee:	Mr. Nabil Elaraby (Egypt)
Special Political Committee:	Mr. Hamadi Khouini (Tunisia)
Second Committee:	Mr. Ramiro Piriz Ballon (Uruguay)
Third Committee:	Mr. Florian Krenkel (Austria)
Fourth Committee:	Mr. Guillermo Melendez Barahona (El Salvador)
Fifth Committee:	Mr. Marian-George Dinu (Romania)
Sixth Committee:	Mr. Javad Zarif (Islamic Republic of Iran)

I congratulate the Chairmen on their election and wish them every success.

ITEM 6 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

ELECTION OF THE VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The PRESIDENT: Pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, we shall now proceed to the election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.

All members of the General Assembly are eligible in this election except those already represented in the General Committee, namely, those countries whose representatives have been elected to the presidency of the General Assembly or to the chairmanship of the Main Committees.

(The President)

In accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the annex to resolution 33/138, the 21 Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session shall be elected according to the following pattern:

(a) Six representatives from African States;

(b) Five representatives from Asian States;

(c) Three representatives from Latin American and Caribbean States;

(d) Two representatives from Western European or other States;

(e) Representatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council.

In accordance with paragraph 16 of annex VI to the rules of procedure, the election of the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly by secret ballot will be dispensed with when the number of candidates corresponds to the number of seats to be filled. In other words, whenever the number of candidates in a given region corresponds to the number of seats to be filled in that region, those candidates will be declared elected. We shall proceed accordingly.

I shall now read the names of the candidates endorsed by the regional groups:

African States: Benin, Cape Verde, Comoros, Gabon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Asian States: Afghanistan, Kuwait, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Yemen

Latin American and Caribbean States: Belize, Nicaragua, Suriname

Western European and other States: Ireland, Turkey

Since the number of candidates endorsed by the regional groups corresponds to the number of seats to be filled in each region, I declare those candidates elected, in addition to the representatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council.

(The President)

The following States have therefore been elected to vice-presidencies of the General Assembly: Afghanistan, Belize, Benin, Cape Verde, China, Comoros, France, Gabon, Ireland, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yemen.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate the States which have been elected Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.

The General Committee for the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly has now been fully constituted in accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure.

AGENDA ITEM 8

ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE FORTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES (A/47/409)

The PRESIDENT: I call on the representative of the United Kingdom on a point of order.

Sir David HANNAY (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland): I apologize, Sir, for being the first member of the Assembly to trouble you with a point of order, but may I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your election to the presidency of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Community and its member States.

The European Committee and its member States have given long and careful thought to the position of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) in the United Nations. During the latter part of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly they repeatedly stated that they did not accept the automatic continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in international organizations, including the United Nations.

(Sir David Hannay, United Kingdom)

It is clear that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) does not have any right to claim the seat of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Its position in this regard is no different from that of other components of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

In these circumstances, it is anomalous and unacceptable that representatives of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should continue to participate in the work of United Nations bodies. The European Community and its member States intend to press for early action by the appropriate organs of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter. The aim would be that the Council recommend that the Assembly deny the claim by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to continue automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations and accordingly to ensure that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) is not allowed to participate in the work of United Nations bodies.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of the United Kingdom will be reflected in the record of the meeting.

I now call on the representative of Turkey, who has also asked to speak on a point of order.

Mr. AKSIN (Turkey): Taking the floor for the first time after your election to the presidency of the Assembly, Sir, I should like to extend to you the heartfelt congratulations of the Turkish delegation. The leader of my delegation, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, will formally extend congratulations to you in the course of the general debate next week. We also want to thank Ambassador Shihabi once again for his outstanding stewardship of the forty-sixth session.

(Mr. Aksin, Turkey)

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the 47 member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

A resolution adopted at the Fifth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Istanbul on 17 and 18 June this year, noted that

> "the claim of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to assume automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia in international organizations has generally not been accepted" (A/47/284, fifteenth preambular paragraph)

Furthermore, in paragraph 19 the resolution

> "Urges all States not to recognize the succession of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to the former Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia, until it fully complies with the Security Council resolutions concerning Bosnia-Herzegovina, and formally and unequivocally recognizes the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of that Republic and until an agreement on the question of succession is reached among the States that constituted the former Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia" (A/47/284, para. 19)

During the latter part of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly my delegation, on behalf of the member States of the OIC, made it clear that the members of the OIC considered that the participation of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) with its present status in meetings of the United Nations did not prejudice the position of our respective Governments regarding the representation of that country in the United Nations.

Finally, General Assembly resolution 46/242 of 25 August 1992, adopted by an overwhelming majority, noted the reservations of a large number of States regarding the succession of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. As

(Mr. Aksin, Turkey)

the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly begins, I should like to reiterate the position of the member States of the OIC on this issue. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) has no right to claim the seat of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and therefore it should be excluded from the United Nations and its bodies. The member States of the OIC strongly support all actions in the United Nations to deny the claim by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) automatically to continue the membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Turkey will also be reflected in the record.

I now call on the representative of Austria, who has also asked to speak on a point of order.

Mr. HOHENFELLNER (Austria): Let me first congratulate you, Sir, on your election to the presidency of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, and at the same time express my appreciation of the performance of Ambassador Shihabi as President of the forty-sixth session.

In a statement of the Austrian Government circulated as a document of the General Assembly (A/47/201, annex) and the Security Council (S/23876, annex), dated 5 May 1992, and on many other occasions since then, our position has been clearly stated: there is no legal basis for an automatic continuation of the legal existence of the former, now-defunct, Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by the new federation of Serbia and Montenegro, which therefore cannot be considered to continue the Yugoslav membership in the United Nations. For an eventual international recognition of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the criteria contained in the guidelines on the recognition of new States adopted by the Council of the European Communities on 16 December 1991

(Mr. Hohenfellner, Austria)

should be applied. In this respect, Austria draws special attention to the requirements of the protection of human rights and the rights of ethnic groups.

We declare today, as we have stated before, that the presence of representatives of Serbia and Montnegro at United Nations meetings has to be viewed as being without prejudice to the resolution of this question.

But now the time for action has come. Indeed, Austria is actively participating within the framework of the Security Council in the consideration of this question, with the aim of adopting a recommendation to the General Assembly. We hope that this issue will then be settled accordingly by a resolution of the General Assembly in the coming days, thus ending the present situation.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Austria will also be reflected in the record.

I now call on the representative of the United States, who has also asked to speak on a point of order.

Mr. PERKINS (United States of America): Allow me, on behalf of my delegation, to join those who have extended congratulations to you, Sir, on your assumption of the presidency of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly. I also express our thanks and congratulations to Ambassador Shihabi for his excellent stewardship of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

We call attention to the tenth preambular paragraph of Security Council resolution 757 (1992) of 30 May 1992, which noted that

"the claim by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to continue automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations has not been generally accepted".

(Mr. Perkins, United States)

The United States firmly believes that the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia no longer exists. Furthermore, we do not consider Serbia-Montenegro to be the continuation of or sole successor to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Accordingly, the position of the United States is that Serbia-Montenegro is not entitled to assume the seat of the former Socialist Federal Repbulic of Yugoslavia in international organizations, including the General Assembly of the United Nations.

(Mr. Perkins, United States)

The United States also believes that, following appropriate action in the Security Council, the General Assembly should, once the Council has made its recommendations, act to resolve this issue.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of the United States of America will also be reflected in the record of the meeting.

I call on the representative of Hungary, who has also asked to speak on a point of order.

Mr. ERDOS (Hungary) (interpretation from French): I have the honour to speak today on behalf of Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of these three countries will have an opportunity to express to you, Mr. President, their congratulations on the occasion of your election to the post of President of our Assembly and to pay tribute also to the outgoing President of the General Assembly.

Following the disintegration of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, we made it known at the appropriate time that unilateral declarations could not create legal grounds for decisions concerning the continuity of the membership status of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations and other international organizations. We continue to believe that this question of continuity will have to be based on the agreement of all the successor States of the former Yugoslav federation. The procedural arrangements which the United Nations has followed since the beginning of the crisis in former Yugoslavia could in no way prejudge the positions our three countries would adopt on the questions of the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - Serbia and Montenegro - in international organizations.

(Mr. Erdös, Hungary)

In the meantime, we have seen the former federal republics of former Yugoslavia become sovereign States recognized by the international community and admitted to the United Nations. With the regularization of the international status of the former constituent parts of former Yugoslavia, it has become more and more evident that those who continued to occupy the seat of the country which had been a Member of the United Nations since 24 October 1945 could not benefit from an automatic continuity within the international organizations of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the form of the newly proclaimed Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - Serbia and Montenegro. From this point of view, it seems vital to us that the same status and position should be granted and guaranteed to all the sovereign States created in the stead and in the territory of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Today, as the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly begins its work, it seems timely and necessary to take an essential step towards settling a question of great importance for the international community. Together with the other Members of our Organization, we wish to help clarify a complex situation that is the result of a bloody conflict in former Yugoslavia. Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary likewise wish to stress the vital importance they attach to the full and unconditional implementation of the agreements reached by the participants in the London Conference, a forum which is called upon to achieve - and we hope that it will do so within a reasonable time - a just and lasting solution to the crisis that is continuing to ravage a region of Europe with which our three countries have forged innumerable bonds throughout history and with which they are determined to maintain and to develop in the future the best relations of good-neighbourliness and cooperation.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Hungary will also be reflected in the record of the meeting.

The representative of Croatia has also asked to speak on a point of order. I call on him now.

Mr. NOBILO (Croatia): Mr. President, let me likewise express cordial congratulations on your election as President of the General Assembly. Let me also express my admiration to Ambassador Shihabi for his skilful and prudent leadership during the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

Croatia must once again raise the question of the status and legitimacy of former Yugoslavia in the United Nations. Many international forums and legal bodies, including the Conference on Yugoslavia, have been clear in stressing that the former Yugoslav State has ceased to exist. All recent United Nations documents call this entity "former Yugoslavia". Although it is widely known, I must underline that three of the former Yugoslav republics have become States Members of the United Nations, while Serbia and Montenegro, which are claiming the right to succeed to the post of former Yugoslavia, are under Security Council sanctions because of their aggression against Croatia and against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I have to remind you, Mr. President, that this controversial issue still remains unresolved as we start the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly. Therefore Croatia finds that the Security Council and the General Assembly must resolve this question as soon as possible.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Croatia will also be reflected in the record of the meeting.

The representative of Australia has also asked to speak on a point of order. I call on him now.

Mr. BUTLER (Australia): Mr. President, my delegation takes great pleasure in seeing you in the Chair of this Assembly, and we took particular note of the remarks you made about the special circumstances of your country which have brought you here today. I am sure that my Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade will address particular congratulatory remarks to you when he takes part in the general debate.

My purpose today is to take a point of order. My delegation wishes it to be recorded that Australia has not accepted the claim of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to be the continuing State of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Australia therefore reserves its position on the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and on issues dealing with its representation in international organizations.

We look forward to early action by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council on this issue.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Australia will also be reflected in the record of the meeting.

The representative of Slovenia has also asked to speak on a point of order. I call on him now.

Mr. TURK (Slovenia): Allow me, firstly, to congratulate you, Sir, on your election to the presidency of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session. The President of the presidency of Slovenia, Mr. Milan Kucan, will address this General Assembly at a later stage, and he will express his congratulations more fully and more formally.

May I also take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the President of the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, Ambassador Samir Shihabi, for the exemplary manner in which he presided over the proceedings of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

(Mr. Turk, Slovenia)

At this stage, the delegation of Slovenia wishes to explain very briefly its position on the question of the membership of Yugoslavia in the United Nations. The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which was a composite, that is, a federal State, has dissolved and ceased to exist. The process of dissolution took place over several years and has gradually obliterated the legitimacy and effectiveness of that former State.

(Mr. Turk, Slovenia)

Four out of the six constituent republics of that former State gained independence, and three of them became Members of the United Nations. The organs of the former federation lost their representativeness. Thus, what had earlier been a federal parliament had degenerated by the end of 1991 into a group of deputies from Serbia and Montenegro who obviously could not form a quorum for any decision. Consequently, none of the decisions adopted by that group of deputies can be considered as legitimate; they therefore have no legal effect.

With respect to the issue of the effectiveness of the defunct organs of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia it is hardly necessary to add anything to the obvious fact that the armed conflict starting in Slovenia and continuing in Croatia and later in Bosnia and Herzegovina demonstrated the virtual extinction of the former federation.

All these and other facts were more fully described in a document that Slovenia presented to the General Assembly earlier this year, issued as document A/47/234 of 28 May 1992.

In short, a federation made up of six constituent republics must be considered as having ceased to exist when a majority of these constituent republics, embracing also the greater part of the federation's territory and population, constituted themselves as sovereign States with the result that federal authority could no longer be effectively and legitimately exercised.

It is certainly the right of the remaining two republics - Serbia and Montenegro - to create or to be a common State, but that State too has to be considered as a new State, and only one among the equal successors of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

(Mr. Turk, Slovenia)

These facts are clear and do not need much further elaboration. What is needed is a coherent approach by international forums with respect to the political and legal consequences of these facts. An important group of those consequences, namely those related to various issues of State succession, are currently being discussed in Geneva. Those questions relating to the question of membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in international organizations, however, must be decided by the competent bodies of those organizations.

We are convinced that the beginning of the session is the time for the General Assembly to address this issue so it can embark upon its forty-seventh session without the burden of this unresolved question and finally recognize that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - that is, Serbia and Montenegro - cannot continue automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. As one of the successor States of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - that is, Serbia and Montenegro - has yet to prove that it is a peace-loving State willing to comply and capable of complying with the obligations enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

It is with those considerations in mind that we look forward to action by the Security Council and the General Assembly.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Slovenia will be reflected in the record of the meeting.

The representative of Albania has asked to make a statement on a point of order. I call on him now.

Mr. SHKURTI (Albania): I take particular pleasure, Sir, in extending my personal congratulations to you on your election to the post of President of the General Assembly. I also want to convey my gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Samir S. Shihabi for his admirable work during the forty-sixth session.

Your election, Mr. President, is sure evidence of your professional accomplishments and your determination to help this Assembly solve the serious problems with which it is faced. I wholeheartedly wish you full success in your work.

I thank you, Sir, for your kind permission to make a brief statement relevant to a question of principle. We are happy to note that the number of States Members of the United Nations has been constantly increasing this year. Newly born independent countries have come into existence and have joined the world Organization. Among them are the Republics of Slovenia, Croatia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, which were constituent parts of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. As a consequence, the latter has already ceased to exist.

In view of this new reality, the State made up of the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro, which calls itself the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, must be considered as a new political and geographical entity, which can by no means be the automatic successor to the former Yugoslavia. It should also be noted that almost all the Members of the United Nations have serious reservations as to the right of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia - Serbia and Montenegro - to claim the seat of the former Socalist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as was shown by General Assembly resolution 46/242 of 25 August 1992.

(Mr. Shkurti, Albania)

Therefore, I share the view expressed by most of my colleagues, that the Federal Republic of Yugoslaviaa - Serbia and Montenegro - should be excluded from the United Nations and its bodies.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Albania will be reflected in the record of the meeting.

The representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina has asked to make a statement on a point of order. I call on him now.

Mr. SACIRBEY (Bosnia and Herzegovina): Let me first extend my congratulations to you, Sir, on your election to your high post. I hope that my President, His Excellency Mr. Alija Izetbegovic, will be here in person, as planned, to offer our sincerest congratulations.

I should like also to express my admiration and appreciation for the leadership of His Excellency Mr. Samir S. Shihabi during these most difficult times for our nation.

The Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina strongly feels that Serbia and Montenegro do not have the legal legitimacy to inherit the seat of the old Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. We strongly believe that Serbia and Montenegro have not shown themselves to be deserving of participation in this noble body. The actions and policies of that Government have been against international law and basic human rights. That Government has perpetrated aggression and pursued a policy of "ethnic cleansing".

On the basis of both legal legitimacy and moral standing, Serbia and Montenegro currently fail the test for participation in this Assembly. We look forward to the time when they will meet such standards.

The PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be reflected in the record of the meeting.

The representative of Yugoslavia has asked to make a statement on a point of order. I call on him now.

Mr. DJOKIC (Yugoslavia): Allow me first of all, Sir, to congratulate you most cordially, on behalf of the delegation of Yugoslavia, on your unanimous election to the post of President of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

Let me also express our full support for the Secretary-General in the relentless efforts he has been making to maintain world peace and security and to make the world Organization ever more viable. My country highly commends his endeavours.

Regrettably, instead of expressions of support for you as you approach the responsible tasks that lie ahead of you, Mr. President, the issue of the membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has been raised.

(Mr. Djokić, Yugoslavia)

The position of my Government in that regard was presented at the meeting of the General Assembly on 29 July 1992; that position is still relevant.

On this occasion, I should like to emphasize certain important elements that should be taken into account in considering the issue of the membership of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia does not consider itself to be the sole successor of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but strongly believes that in accordance with established practice in international relations, the membership of Yugoslavia in the United Nations and its legal personality should not be challenged. This is also fully in compliance with the general principles adopted by the General Assembly's Sixth Committee in 1947, which inter alia state:

> "That as a general rule it is in conformity with legal principles to presume that a State which is a Member of the Organization of the United Nations does not cease to be a Member simply because its Constitution or its frontiers have been subject to change, and the extinction of that State as a legal personality recognized in the international order must be shown before its rights and obligations can be considered thereby to have ceased to exist."

Those principles are still valid. They have never been contested by United Nations practice, or objected to by Member States.

We are particularly concerned that the initiative for the suspension of Yugoslavia should come at a time of intensified peace efforts on the part of the Government of Yugoslavia within the framework of the United Nations. The Government of Yugoslavia has taken a number of steps in order to fulfil the requirements of the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. The

(Mr. Djokić, Yugoslavia)

Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, Mr. Milan Panić, in his letter of 7 August 1992 to the President of the Security Council (A/46/956-S/24391), put forward the programme of his Government for peace. The programme received strong support at the London Conference. The London Conference was a turning-point for the peace process, and some headway has already been made. We believe that that progress could be further invigorated in the weeks to come.

The Government of Yugoslavia is determined to fulfil its commitments and to implement its programme for peace. This task is not an easy one, but we will not be discouraged by the difficulties that lie ahead. In our efforts, we need the support and help of the international community, the United Nations, the General Assembly and the Security Council in particular. Therefore, it is hard to understand the initiative to prevent a representative of Yugoslavia from participating in the proceedings of all the United Nations bodies, since it would be detrimental to the common efforts to achieve much-needed peace and a speedy solution to the crisis. This could seriously jeopardize the positive outcome of the London Conference and current efforts to implement its decision.

I do not wish to reply to the allegations of the representatives of the former Yugoslav republics, as I strongly believe that the rostrum of the General Assembly should not be used for recriminations and confrontations. If all former Yugoslav republics are truly seeking to bring peace to the peoples they represent, if we all are truly seeking to achieve a political solution as soon as possible to end the nightmare of the Yugoslav peoples and ensure the prospective of democratic development, then what we need today more than ever before is mutual cooperation and understanding. Mutual recriminations will not bring us any closer to that goal. Of course, it is up to each country to determine for what purposes it is going to use the rostrum of the United

(Mr. Djokic, Yugoslavia)

Nations. It is without a doubt their own choice. We can only regret that they have chosen the course of confrontation and recriminations, which leads us to new political challenges, instead of the one of cooperation and understanding towards which we are striving as the only road towards a speedy political solution to the problems we are facing today.

The PRESIDENT: These remarks will also be reflected in the record of the meeting.

The Assembly will now turn its attention to document A/47/409, which contains a letter dated 28 August 1992 addressed to the President of the Assembly by the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences. As members are aware, the Assembly in paragraph 7 of its resolution 40/243, decided that no subsidiary organ of the General Assembly should be permitted to meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized by the Assembly.

As indicated in the letter I have just mentioned, the Committee on Conferences has recommended that the General Assembly authorize the Committee for Programme and Coordination, which has been meeting since 31 August, to meet beyond 15 September, until 18 September 1992.

Bearing in mind that this date overlaps with the forty-seventh session of the Assembly, may I take it that the General Assembly adopts the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Members will recall that by decision 46/472 of 13 April 1992, the Assembly established a Preparatory Committee for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations (draft decision A/46/L.68).

(The President)

In this connection, I should like to propose that in order to enable the Preparatory Committee to commence its work, the Assembly authorize it to meet during the current session.

I see no objection.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Before adjourning the meeting, I wish to thank all representatives for their kind words addressed to me.

The meeting rose at 5.10 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

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PROVISIONAL

A/47/PV.3
22 September 1992

ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 18 September 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. GANEV (Bulgaria)

- Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations
- Credentials of representatives to the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly:

  (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
- Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: first report of the General Committee

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the Official Records of the General Assembly.

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92-61164 1132V (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

ITEM 113 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA (continued)

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS (A/47/442/Add.1)

The PRESIDENT: I should like to bring to the attention of representatives that since the issuance this morning, in provisional form, of document A/47/442/Add.1, containing a letter addressed to me by the Secretary-General in which he informed me that Haiti had made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter, Niger has also made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter. Consequently, the final version of document A/47/442/Add.1 will reflect this situation.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

ITEM 3 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA (continued)

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

(a) APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The PRESIDENT: Members will recall that at its first plenary meeting the General Assembly appointed eight members of the Credentials Committee: Argentina, Barbados, Burundi, China, Kenya, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

I now propose that the Assembly appoint Papua New Guinea as a member of the Credentials Committee.

May I take it that the State I have mentioned is hereby appointed a member of the Credentials Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The Credentials Committee for the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly has now been fully constituted in accordance with rule 28 of the rules of procedure.

ITEM 8 OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK: FIRST REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE (A/47/250)

The PRESIDENT: I shall refer to specific sections and paragraphs of the report which contain recommendations for consideration by the Assembly.

In paragraph 2 the General Committee draws the attention of the General Assembly to the provisions reproduced in annexes V, VI, VII and VIII of its rules of procedure.

May I take it that the Assembly takes note of those provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now examine section II of the report, which deals with the organization of the session.

In section II B, dealing with the rationalization of work of the General Assembly, the General Committee draws our attention to paragraph 5 of the annex to Assembly resolution 45/45.

In this connection, the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that, as at recent sessions, the holding of concurrent meetings of the Special Political Committee and the Fourth Committee should be avoided, to the extent possible, and with the necessary flexibility, during the forty-seventh session.

May I take it that the Assembly agrees to that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In section II C, which relates to the closing date of the forty-seventh session, the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that the forty-seventh session recess no later than Friday, 18 December 1992, and close on Monday, 20 September 1993.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In this connection, as reflected in paragraph 7, I wish to reiterate my appeal to all the Main Committees to start their work as soon as possible. I also urge the Main Committees to make every effort to complete their work by the target date of Friday, 27 November 1992, in order to report to the Assembly in plenary meeting in early December.

May I take it that the Assembly endorses this appeal?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Regarding the schedule of meetings referred to in Section II D, the General Committee recommends in paragraph 8 that morning meetings should start at 10 a.m. promptly for all plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees during the forty-seventh session.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 9 the General Committee also recommends that in order to avoid the late start of meetings the General Assembly should waive at this session the requirement of the presence of at least one third of the Members to declare a plenary meeting open and permit the debate to proceed and of at least one quarter of the members to declare a meeting of a Main Committee open and permit the debate to proceed. This recommendation is made on the understanding that such a waiver would not imply any permanent change

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in the provisions of rules 67 and 108 of the rules of procedure. Furthermore, such a waiver would not affect the provisions of the rules concerning the requirement of the presence of a majority of the members for any decision to be taken.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: None the less, in this regard, I should like to endorse strongly the practical suggestions that were made at previous sessions for each delegation to designate someone to be present at the scheduled time. Some progress has been reported but there is still considerable room for improvement. I genuinely hope that all delegations will cooperate.

The General Committee, in paragraph 10, recommends to the General Assembly that delegations should be reminded of the utmost importance of punctuality in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In this connection I should like to assure the Assembly that I shall be in the Chair punctually at the scheduled time, and I urge the Chairmen of the Main Committees to do the same. I sincerely hope that all delegations will make a special effort to cooperate in this regard.

In section II E, concerning the general debate, the General Committee recommends that the general debate should begin on Monday, 21 September, and end by Thursday, 8 October 1992. The General Committee also recommends that the list of speakers in the general debate should be closed on Wednesday, 23 September at 6 p.m.

May I consider that the General Assembly approves the recommendations contained in paragraph 11?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In view of the very large number of speakers already inscribed, I urge representatives to speak in the order in which they appear on the list of speakers. Those who are unable to speak at the scheduled time will be put at the end of the list for that day.

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In paragraph 12, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to the decision taken by the Assembly at previous sessions, namely that the practice of expressing congratulations inside the General Assembly Hall itself after a statement has been delivered is prohibited, and recommends that this provision should also apply during the forty-seventh session.

May I take it that the Assembly approves this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In this connection, in the same paragraph, the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that speakers in the general debate, after delivering their statements, should leave the Assembly Hall through Room GA-200, located behind the podium, before returning to their seats.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now turn to section II F, regarding explanations of vote, right of reply, points of order and length of statements.

In paragraph 13, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of its decision 34/401, which deal with explanations of vote and right of reply.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of these provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 14, the General Committee, in line with time-limits for explanations of vote and right of reply, recommends to the General Assembly that points of order should be limited to five minutes.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to limit points of order to five minutes?

(The President)

I see no objection.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 15, regarding the length of statements, the General Committee draws the attention of the Assembly, as it did at recent sessions, to rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure and to paragraph 22 of annex VI thereto, for appropriate action in plenary meeting and in the Main Committees.

May I take it that the Assembly takes note of these provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Section II G deals with records of meetings.

May I take it that the Assembly approves the recommendations contained in paragraph 16?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The General Committee also draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 17 of its decision 34/401, which is reproduced in section II H, concerning concluding statements in the General Assembly and its Main Committees.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of this provision?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In section II I, concerning resolutions, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 32 of its decision 34/401, to recommendation 3 (f) of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, and to paragraphs 1 and 10 of the annex to Assembly resolution 45/45.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of these provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Section II J of the report of the General Committee refers to questions related to the programme budget. In this connection, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 12 and 13 of its decision 34/401.

The Committee also draws the Assembly's attention to paragraph 6 of its resolution 35/10 A of 3 November 1980, which deals with proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings and to regulation 4.9 of the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 37/234.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of the provisions contained in paragraphs 20 and 21?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 22, in connection with subparagraph 13 (d) of decision 34/401, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to the observations by the Secretary-General regarding the fact that, depending on the type and complexity of the proposals involving changes in the work programme and additional expenditures, the preparation of a statement of programme budget implications by the Secretary-General may take a few days. In addition, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee need adequate time to review the programme budget implications of a draft resolution before the latter can be acted on by the Assembly.

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The Secretary-General thus considers it desirable that Member States submit proposals involving statements of programme budget implications sufficiently in advance to avoid the cancellation of meetings and the postponement of consideration of items.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to take note of the observations contained in paragraph 22?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Section II K refers to documentation. In paragraph 23, the General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 28 of Assembly decision 34/401 relating to reports of the Secretary-General or of subsidiary organs.

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of that provision?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In that connection, the General Committee took note of the proposal by the Secretary-General that the Committee should examine further the question of how to respond to the increasing volume of documentation. Given the limited capacity of the documentation-processing services, it is essential that documentation requirements be met according to established priorities. Of necessity, pre- and in-session documents must take precedence over meeting records. The translation of summary records, in particular, must be delayed if demand exceeds capacity. Waiving the simultaneous distribution requirement in this case will ensure that some language versions of summary records will appear in a timely manner.

Section II L concerns observances and commemorative meetings. The General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that, allowing for the

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necessary flexibility, and with the exception of the anniversary of the United Nations, the General Assembly adopt the following format for commemorative meetings: statements by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General, and statements by the chairmen of the five regional groups and by the representative of the host country. The Committee also recommends that consideration be given to limiting each statement to 15 minutes.

The General Committee further recommends that observances and commemorative meetings take place, as far as possible, immediately following the general debate. The advantage of such a procedure is that it might facilitate the participation of dignitaries attending the general debate. This procedure would also allow advance planning of the Assembly's work.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt the recommendations contained in paragraphs 25 and 26?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Section II M relates to special conferences. The General Committee draws the General Assembly's attention to recommendation 6 of the Committee on Conferences, adopted by the Assembly in paragraph (b) of its decision 34/405 and to recommendations 2 (d) and 4 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts.

I take it that the General Assembly takes ncte of those provisions?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In section II N, concerning meetings of subsidiary organs, the General Committee, in the light of recommendations submitted by the Committee on Conferences, recommends to the General Assembly that the

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following subsidiary organs of the Assembly be authorized to hold meetings during the forty-seventh session: Advisory Committee on the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa; Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa; Committee on Relations with the Host Country; Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund; Intergovernmental Group to Monitor the Supply and Shipping of Oil and Petroleum Products to South Africa; Special Committee against Apartheid; and Working Group of the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves those recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: That completes our consideration of section II of the report of the General Committee, which relates to the organization of the session.

We turn now to section III of the report, which contains observations and proposals on the organization of future sessions.

In connection with the programme of work of the General Assembly, in paragraph 31 the General Committee recommends to the Assembly that it consider the possibility of rationalizing its meetings between January and August of each year to allow advance planning for delegations and the Secretariat.

In paragraph 32, with regard to Main Committees, in the light of the experience gained in scheduling the work of the General Assembly, and making allowances for the required flexibility, the General Committee recommends to

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the Assembly that it examine the possibility of fixing staggered target dates for the completion of the work of the Main Committees. This would allow for better planning of meetings and processing of the reports of the Main Committees.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts the recommendations contained in paragraphs 31 and 32?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Also with regard to Main Committees, as reflected in paragraph 33, the General Committee endorsed the suggestion of the Secretary-General that it should undertake a review of the structure and mandates of the Main Committees with a view to making improvements, including merging the mandates of some Committees or changing their responsibilities in the light of the evolving agenda of the General Assembly.

May I take it that the Assembly takes note of paragraph 33?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to section IV of the report of the General Committee, relating to the adoption of the agenda.

May I just recall to members of the General Assembly rule 23 of the rules of procedure, which provides that

"Debate on the inclusion of an item in the agenda, when that item has been recommended for inclusion by the General Committee, shall be limited to three speakers in favour of, and three against, the inclusion".

I should like to stress that at this time we are not discussing the substance of any item.

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In paragraph 35, the General Committee recommends that the General Assembly direct its Main Committees to review their agenda with a view to streamlining their programme of work. In particular, the Main Committees should consider:

(a) The grouping of related items under a single heading;

(b) The staggering of items over two or more years.

May I consider that it is the wish of the General Assembly to direct its Main Committees to review their agenda with a view to streamlining their programme of work as suggested in paragraph 35?

If I hear no objection, it will be so decided.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 36, concerning item 77 of the draft agenda (Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India), the General Committee recommends that the consideration of the item be deferred to the forty-eighth session and that the item be included in the provisional agenda of that session.

May I take it that the Assembly approves those recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 37, concerning item 103 of the draft agenda (Question of East Timor), the General Committee recommends that the consideration of this item be deferred to the forty-eighth session and that the item be included in the provisional agenda of that session.

May I take it that the Assembly approves those recommendations?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the agenda which the General Committee recommends for adoption by the General Assembly.

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In accordance with past practice, we shall follow the numbering given in paragraph 38 of the General Committee's report, document A/47/250, and, where that seems appropriate, we shall consider items in groups. I should like to remind members once again that at present we are not discussing the substance of any item, except when such discussion can assist the Assembly in deciding whether or not to include an item in the agenda.

Items 1 to 6 have already been acted upon in plenary meeting. Therefore, their inclusion has been approved.

We turn now to items 7 to 22. May I take it that these items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We come now to item 23, entitled "Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte".

May I take it that item 23 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next we turn to items 24 to 37.

May I take it that these items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The next item, item 38, is entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)".

May I take it that item 38 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to item 39, entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

May I take it that item 39 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The next item is item 40, entitled "Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council".

May I take it that item 40 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Item 41 is entitled "Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986".

May I take it that item 41 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next, we turn to item 42, entitled "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security".

May I take it that item 42 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Item 43 is entitled "Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development".

May I take it that item 43 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next we turn to item 44, entitled "Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations".

May I take it that item 44 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to item 45, entitled "Question of Cyprus".

May I take it that item 45 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Item 46 is entitled "Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait".

May I take it that item 46 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I take it that items 47 and 48 are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: I now invite members to turn to items 49 to 69 relating to disarmament.

May I take it that items 49 to 69 are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I also take it that items 70 to 76 are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to item 77, entitled "Question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations".

May I take it that item 77 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to item 78 to 90 relating to international economic cooperation.

May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to items 91 to 97 relating to social and humanitarian questions.

May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn next to items 98 to 101 relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

May I take it that items 98 to 101 are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to the group of items dealing with administrative and financial questions, items 102 to 124.

May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to items 125 to 136.

May I take it that those items are included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I take it that item 137 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next, we turn to item 138, entitled "Observer status for the International Organization for Migration in the General Assembly".

May I take it that item 138 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The next item, item 139, is entitled "Complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territories of the Baltic States".

May I take it that this item is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to item 140, entitled "Coordination of the activities of the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe".

May I take it that this item is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to item 141, entitled "Emergency international assistance for the reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".

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May I take it that this item is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The next item is item 142, entitled "Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean".

May I take it that item 142 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to item 143, entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

May I take it that item 143 is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to item 144, entitled "International cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery".

May I take it that this item is included in the agenda?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to the question of the allocation of items dealt with in section V of the report of the General Committee. In this connection, the General Committee, in paragraph 39, draws the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 4 of its decision 34/401, which states that:

> "substantive items should normally be discussed initially in a Main Committee and, therefore, items previously allocated to plenary meetings should henceforth be referred to a Main Committee unless there are compelling circumstances requiring their continued consideration in plenary meeting".

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In the same paragraph, the General Committee draws the Assembly's attention to paragraph 5 of the annex to Assembly resolution 39/88 B whereby the Chairmen of the Main Committees should take the initiative, in the light of past experience, to propose the grouping of similar or related items and the holding of a single general debate on them, and to paragraph 6 of the annex to Assembly resolution 45/45 whereby the General Committee, in making recommendations as to how agenda items should be allocated to the Main Committees and the plenary of the General Assembly, should ensure the best use of the expertise of the Committees.

The modifications indicated in paragraph 40 are reflected in the proposed allocation. We shall therefore consider them when we come to the relevant items under paragraph 41.

Before we proceed, may I remind members that the item numbers refer to the agenda in paragraph 38 of the report before us in document A/47/250.

May I now invite members to turn to the list of items recommended by the General Committee for consideration in plenary meeting.

Regarding item 18 on the list, the General Committee recommends in paragraph 40 (a) (i) that the Assembly refer to the Fourth Committee chapters of the report of the Special Committee relating to specific Territories so that the General Assembly may deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: I now invite members to turn their attention to item 33, entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa". In this connection, as stated in paragraph 40 (a) (ii), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item be considered

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directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that the representatives of the Organization of African Unity and of national liberation movements recognized by that Organization would be permitted to participate in the discussion in plenary meeting and that organizations and individuals having a special interest in the question would be permitted to be heard by the Special Political Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves the recommendation of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I now invite members to consider item 38, entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)". In this connection, as stated in paragraph 40 (a) (iii), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Fourth Committee in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I now invite the General Assembly to turn its attention to paragraph 40 (a) (iv) regarding item 45, entitled "Question of Cyprus".

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly allocate the item at an appropriate time during the session.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: May I now invite members to turn to paragraph 40 (a) (v) regarding item 138, entitled "Observer status for the International Organization for Migration in the General Assembly".

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item be considered directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to paragraph 40 (a) (vi) regarding item 139 (Complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territories of the Baltic States).

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next we turn to paragraph 40 (a) (vii) concerning item 140 (Coordination of the activities of the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe).

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Taking into account the decisions just adopted regarding the allocation of specific items for consideration in plenary meeting, may I now take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of items listed in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee for consideration directly in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the list of items which the General Committee has recommended for allocation to the First Committee.

In connection with item 61 (General and complete disarmament), the General Committee recommends in paragraph 40 (b) (i) that the paragraphs of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is to be considered directly in plenary meeting under item 14, should be called to the

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attention of the First Committee in connnection with its consideration of item 61.

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to paragraph 40 (b) (ii) regarding item 142 (Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean).

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be allocated to the First Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Taking into account the decisions just adopted, may I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for the First Committee in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to the list of items which the General Committee has recommended for allocation to the Special Political Committee.

Taking into account the decisions just adopted, may I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for the Special Political Committee in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to the list of items which the General Committee has recommended for allocation to the Second Committee.

In paragraph 40 (c) (i) concerning item 79 (Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development), the General Committee decided to

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recommend to the General Assembly that the debate on the item should be held directly in plenary meeting on the understanding that action on the item would be taken by the Second Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now turn to paragraph 40 (c) (ii) concerning item 141 (Emergency international assistance for the reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan).

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next we turn to paragraph 40 (c) (iii) regarding item 144 (International cooperation and assistance to alleviate the consequences of war in Croatia and to facilitate its recovery).

The General Committee decided to recommend that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Taking into account the decisions just adopted, may I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for the Second Committee in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We now come to the items proposed for allocation to the Third Committee.

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In paragraph 40 (d) (i) (a) regarding sub-item (a) of item 93 (Questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family), the General Committee decided to recommend that, in the light of Assembly resolution 46/96 of 16 December 1991, the plenary meetings to mark the conclusion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons should be held on Monday and Tuesday, 12 and 13 October 1992.

I should like to point out that the customary consideration of recommendations under this sub-item remains in the Third Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 40 (d) (i) (b) also with regard to sub-item (a) of item 93, the General Committee decided to recommend that, in the light of Assembly resolution 46/91 of 16 December 1991, the plenary meetings to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing should be held on Thursday and Friday, 15 and 16 October 1992.

I should like to point out that the customary consideration of recommendations under this sub-item remains in the Third Committee.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 40 (d) (ii) regarding item 94 (Advancement of women), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the report of the Administrator of the United Nations

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Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 83 (Operational activities for development).

May I take it that the Assembly approves that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In paragraph 40 (d) (iii), with regard to item 97 (b) (Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms), the General Committee decided to recommend that, in the light of Assembly resolution 46/128 of 17 December 1991, the opening ceremonies for the International Year for the World's Indigenous People should be held in plenary meeting on Thursday, 10 December 1992, in the morning.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Taking into account the decisions just adopted, may I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for the Third Committee in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the list of items recommended for allocation to the Fourth Committee.

Taking into account the decisions just adopted, may I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items to the Fourth Committee as proposed in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: We turn now to the list of items recommended for allocation to the Fifth Committee.

In paragraph 40 (e) (i), with regard to item 105 of the draft agenda (Programme planning), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee, on the understanding that each programme of the proposed revisions to the

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medium-term plan should be submitted to the plenary Assembly or to the appropriate Main Committee for review.

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to adopt this recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: In this connection, I should like to point out that the views and recommendations of the Main Committees should be submitted to the Fifth Committee before 20 November 1992 so as to enable the Fifth Committee to finalize its recommendations to the plenary on the item.

Regarding item 109 (Joint Inspection Unit), the General Committee recommended in paragraph 40 (e) (ii) that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee, on the understanding that the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit dealing with subject-matters assigned to the other Main Committees would also be referred to those Committees.

May I take it that the General Assembly adopts that recommendation?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Taking into account the decisions just adopted, may I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for the Fifth Committee in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: Next we come to the items recommended for allocation to the Sixth Committee.

May I take it that the General Assembly approves the allocation of the items proposed for the Sixth Committee in paragraph 41 of the report of the General Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of the report of the General Committee.

I wish to thank the members of the Assembly for their cooperation, which has made it possible for us to complete this task expeditiously.

Each Main Committee will promptly receive the list of agenda items allocated to it so that it may begin its work as soon as possible, in accordance with rule 99 of the rules of procedure.

Before adjourning the meeting, I should like to inform members that the lists of speakers for the plenary meetings to be held on Monday and Tuesday, 12 and 13 October 1992, to mark the conclusion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, and for the plenary meetings to be held on Thursday and Friday, 15 and 16 October 1992, to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, are now open.

I therefore request representatives wishing to participate in those observances to inscribe themselves as soon as possible. I should also like to appeal to the Chairmen of the Regional Groups to provide endorsed candidatures for the remaining vacancies for officers of the Main Committees and to communicate that information promptly to the Chairman and the Secretary of the Main Committee concerned.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.